



Agricultural and Mechanical Journal

HOMAN & BADGER, Publishers.

S. L. BOARDMAN, Editor.

Our Home, our Country and our Brother Man.

What is Needed at Orono.

We publish in another column a somewhat lengthy article regarding our State College at Orono, introducing the same by a few words designed to give approval to its tone, and command for it careful reading. And perhaps it may be as well, in this connection, and with the thoughts of our readers already upon the subject, to allude more particularly to some urgent needs of the institution, needs which must be supplied before it can give that complete training it is designed to give, or satisfactorily qualify pupils to properly discharge what they may in after life be called upon to discharge. We do not refer to building up, to apparatus, to instructors—of these it has enough, we mean however, buildings for the direct collegiate purposes. Of these the college has ample means for giving accurate education to one hundred and twenty-five pupils, and suitable and appropriate rooms for the various exercises of the class and lecture rooms for laboratory practice, &c. Its apparatus, if less extensive than that of some of the older colleges, is better adapted to its wants from its modern make, and the advantages secured by modern discovery and invention. The facility of instruction—as given in full by us a few weeks since—is already ample in numbers and ability—from the head of the same, a gentleman of culture and scholarly attainments, down through the entire list to the officer of least importance. In all these particulars, the forces of the college are equal to any demand likely to be made upon it; in other respects it is deficient, and that too, in particulars that can no longer fail to receive attention without endangering the complete success of the institution. As yet no effort has been made to provide workshops for the college, although in about six months its first class will have completed the prescribed four years' course. It is true that other buildings have been needed, and that the college has had many obstacles to contend with, and that appropriations actually needed have been reduced through a short sighted policy of false economy, which too often controls State appropriations for educational and humanitarian purposes—compelling the Trustees to do as they could, rather than as they would. But the obstacles have been overcome, the needed buildings are erected, and the appropriations have been made the most of. Now the workshops must be built, there must be tools and machinery and the various appliances for giving a practical mechanical education. The act of Congress under which this institution was established, expressly enjoins this as one of the conditions to be carried out; and workshops, machinery, tools, are as necessary to give a thorough and practical training as is the mechanic, as a farm, moving machine, hot, are to give the same practical and efficient training to the farmer. Without these the college fails to carry out its complete design, and we are right in demanding of the State to provide means for their erection and equipment. The same may be said of the need of a plant house for horticultural purposes, of better barns, of more and better farming implements and machines, of more and better stock for illustrative and comparative purposes, and of a larger and better reference and general library. But while these latter wants do not press, and will no doubt be forthcoming in good time, we urge the farmer, as one of greatest importance, and as one that should be attended to at once.

Horror, from the very nature of the circumstances surrounding it, the college has been beset with great uncertainty and doubt. Now all this has changed. Its location is now established; its buildings have been erected with its future wants; its professors are pledged to its success, and will labor with all their might to this end, and its pupils are rapidly increasing in numbers. Whatever is needed to more completely carry out the design of the general government, the State virtually constructed to do when it accepted the national grant. And it belongs to the State to provide buildings, apparatus, implements, tools, workshops, stock, or any other thing needed in the way of furnishing means to give a liberal education to the industrial classes. This is the only way known to us, the only way expected by the Trustees, from which funds are coming to meet the pressing need of the institution. And we speak for the farmers and mechanics of the State, who bear the burdens of taxation, who look to this college to benefit them, not themselves, and their sons, and possibly their daughters, when we ask the Legislature soon to assemble to make a sufficient appropriation for the People's College at Orono, to enable its Trustees to place it in such a position—so far as external or internal equipments are concerned—that it may be completely fitted to impart a thorough practical and scientific education to all its pupils, in any department of study which it claims to give.

Public Domain of the Nation.

Occasionally, one finds under the subhead "Public Domain" generally forbidding covers of a "Pub. Doc." a large amount of useful information. Thus in the report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for 1868—a volume of over 400 pages—comes a full showing of the extent, resources, climate and progress of our western States and territories, is an elaborate and quite lengthy paper on Forest Culture, giving information not only what the nations of the Old World have done in this direction, but what the people of the Great West are doing and expect to do. In the report of the same department for 1869, is a paper of great value on the public lands of the United States, evidently prepared with great care, in regard to their mineral, agricultural, fur and timber resources; and also one on the Railroad System of the United States as connected with their industrial progress. One gets an imperfect but forcible idea of the magnitude of our country by being told that we possess of public lands yet to be disposed of, 4,100,000 acres; 78,93 acres, a number exceeding the entire areas of Europe, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Norway and Sweden, and greater by 1,200,000 square miles than all of Europe outside of Russia. During the year 1868, 6,055,742 acres were disposed of, and in 1869, 7,066,131.97 acres were disposed of, being an increase of over one million acres more than in 1868. These were disposed of on cash sales, on the location of bounty land warrants, the

homestead act, agricultural and mechanical college scrip, under railroad grants, Indian scrip, &c. The natural wealth of our public domain is immense and almost exhaustless, and when the new States and territories shall have become fully peopled, and other States yet unnamed formed from this vast area, and their immense natural wealth becomes available—a new period of civilization and national progress such as the world has never seen will have commenced, the grand future of which no one is now wise enough to predict.

Results of Extensive Drainage.

Our readers are already familiar with the extent to which the thorough draining of land has been carried by English farmers, and the increased crops and higher rents which have in all cases followed the drainage of land having a somewhat retentive subsoil. But some of the English journals are beginning to think that their farmers have run too precipitately into the theory that because standing water is unwholesome in one's shoes, &c. among growing crops, therefore it is the farmer's enemy, to be conducted out of the country, and into the sea with as little delay as possible.

It is, however, an excellent month for the drainage of land, and for the removal of what will affect the future. Out of doors, everything has a dreary and winterish look. Nature has put off her bud and blossom, her flowers and green, and is now resting and recovering, for the season of pleasure and harvest. At this time however the peasant and best place, and this is the season the peasant should be a model, and the domestic species. Hoping that this will satisfy your correspondent, I will close. CHAS. STWARD.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Talk about Homes.

While posts tell us how "softly the winds of Autumn sing," very few persons who live move and have their being on the earth need be informed that November is a cheerless month.

It is, however, an excellent month for the removal of the debris of the autumn, which shall affect the future. Out of doors, everything has a dreary and winterish look.

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fully selecting and breeding only from the largest, finest birds of their flocks for a succession of years. There is no doubt that these are possible, but the close confinement of many of the bronze turkeys to the wild species, would seem to indicate that they owe their origin and superiority to a cross of the wild and the domestic species. Hoping that this will satisfy your correspondent, I will close. CHAS. STWARD.

For the Maine Farmer.

Notes of Travel—No. 4.

New York, Saturday, Nov. 1, 1871.

I have been at work today in the fruit garden, among pear, peach and quince trees, and a fine lot of blackberry bushes—Kitatinney, Lawton and Early Wilson. The former are considered the most valuable for market, being strong growers. I measured one which had a diameter of two and a half inches, and was a daughter, how to make it the most attractive. Farmers as a class give but little attention to their homes. They neglect the house, the pleasure and health, and this is the season the peasant should be a model, and the domestic species. Hoping that this will satisfy your correspondent, I will close. CHAS. STWARD.

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The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Foreign News.

Latest from Europe.

Great Britain.

London, Dec. 6. President Grant's message makes an excellent impression here and is favorably received by the press. All the morning journals express satisfaction with the spirit in which the relations with Great Britain stand. The Prince of Wales has a more flattering exhibit made of the condition of the country.

The official bulletin of the condition of the Prince of Wales, yesterday morning states that he had a short sleep last night and the fever was regularly declining. The Queen remains at Windsor, but in constant communication with Sardinian. There is little doubt now that the crisis is over and the Prince is out of danger.

The Times in an article on the President's message, congratulates the American government on the dexterity of its diplomatic representatives in Europe during the Franco-German war in preparing an impartial attitude which will open the eyes of the world to the principles of justice.

New York, Dec. 6. In the recent suit at London of the United States against the Duke of Argyll, Argyll was compelled to admit that he had ordered all the proceeds of the sale of war material sent to the rebel states to be paid to the American Consul for the United States.

The attorney of Kelley, who was acquitted of the murder of his son in Dublin, is of the opinion that criminal proceedings against him will be instituted.

London, Dec. 7. Sir James York Scarlett, Lieutenant General of the army, and distinguished in the war of the Crimeas, died yesterday, aged 72.

The bulletins from Sandringham continue to report a steady improvement in the condition of the Prince of Wales.

There was an imposing demonstration last evening at Birmingham in favor of a radical reform of the Poor Law, and a limitation of its power to defuse or suspend the beneficial and progressive legislation of the House of Commons. Among the speakers were Dixon, Dilke, Potter and Bradlaugh. There was much disorder while Dilke was speaking. He was frequently interrupted, and so great was the confusion, he was obliged to desist.

London, Dec. 8. There was an unfavorable change in the condition of the Prince of Wales. The first bulletin this morning, signed by Sir Edward, gave the condition of symptoms of the Prince had a very quiet night, and this morning there was considerable increase in the fever. This official news and various exaggerated rumors on the street cause a renewal of alarm and have the effect of depressing the stock and property generally.

Madrid, Dec. 7. The sudden unfavorable change in the condition of the Prince of Wales has caused a feeling of deep sorrow throughout the entire country, and many expressions of sympathy are pouring in from all sections. The intense melancholy of night is intense. The immense crowd gathered in front of the newspaper and telegraph offices anxiously seeking information. All classes, including workers, held public meetings, at which they voted unanimously to express their sympathy with the Prince.

London, Dec. 9. Twenty-nine ladies have been matriculated in the University of Edinburgh during the present term.

The report of the SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY. We make the following abstract of the Secretary's annual report:

During the fiscal year ending June, 30, 1871, the reduction of the public debt was \$94,327,764.84. The total increase in the public debt from June, 30, 1870, to June 30, 1871, was \$27,211,592.61, and during the same period the annual interest charge had been reduced \$16,741,436.04. The Secretary says:

"The revenue for the year, 1871, and the receipts from customs for the same period of the time has arrived within a considerable part of the reduction in taxes is made, and yet leave the government in a position to pay at least fifty millions of dollars annually of the principal of the public debt, including the interest paid on the sinking fund."

London, Dec. 9—10 P. M. The following is the latest official bulletin of the condition of the Prince of Wales.

Sandringham, Dec. 9—10 P. M. The Prince has slept since noon, but there is no improvement in his symptoms.

London, Dec. 10—9 A. M. Sir William Jenkins, the Secretary of State in attendance upon the Prince of Wales has just issued a bulletin stating that his Royal Highness passed a quiet night. Prostration however still exists, but the grave symptoms of the disease under which the Prince is suffering are lessened.

Sandringham, Dec. 10—10 P. M. The Prince has been restless during the evening and there is no abatement in the dangerous symptoms of the disease. The condition of the Prince causes the painful anxiety and intense excitement prevalent throughout London and the Kingdom.

London, Dec. 11—11 P. M. The latest official bulletin in regard to the condition of the Prince of Wales from Sandringham is as follows:

The Prince of Wales has not slept during the evening, but his general state continues unchanged.

In accordance with the request of the Archbishops of Canterbury prays for the recovery of the soul of the patient, especially for the service in all Anglican churches yesterday.

In the Roman Catholic churches, Jewish synagogues, and dissenting chapels, special prayers were offered.

The feeling of alarm for the present and unusual for the winter is profound and widespread. Business is about wholly suspended throughout the country. The telegraph lines are block with a multitude of messages sent to and from concerning the Prince. The greatest anxiety is manifested to obtain the latest news.

Official bulletins from Sandringham, which are, however, too rarely issued to satisfy the public demand, are posted up at the Marlborough House, the Royal Palace, the Palace of Wiles, and the Mansion House and Horse Guards, where they are surrounded by great crowds of anxious and silent people.

London, Dec. 12—7 P. M. Private and unusual intelligence from Sandringham, however, received by a Central wire agency, held out some slight hope of a favorable turn in the Prince's disease. The patient's voice remains strong, a proof that nature is not completely exhausted. Preparations which are making an appeal for the same are continuing.

London, Dec. 13—6 A. M. An official despatch from Sandringham this morning, says that the condition of the Prince of Wales is without alteration. The Prince takes food and sustenance, and has been twice lucid at intervals, but sleep is badly needed. His condition however is somewhat more hopeful.

France. Paris, Dec. 7. The appointment of Jules Ferry as minister to the United States was officially promulgated to-day.

The Figaro newspaper says that orders have been sent to the admiral at Cherbourg and Brest to make preparations for crossing the coast of France. The following representations that these preparations are taken to prevent what is called another return from Elba.

Yverdon, Dec. 7. The message of President Thiers was received in the assembly to-day. It announced that the French government had been notified of the intention of France to abrogate the treaty of commerce at a stipulated time, but France will not discontinue the negotiations for a re-arrangement of commercial relations.

Paris. Dec. 7. The British government has issued a decree to the effect that the British troops are to be withdrawn from the Rhine, and the British government has issued a decree to the effect that the British troops are to be withdrawn from the Rhine.

The expenses of the government, not including the amount payable on account of the sinking fund, are estimated at \$273,925,739.99.

If to this sum be added fifty millions of dollars for the payment of the debts of the United States, the total amount will be \$328,900,000. Estimated expenditures for 1872, \$209,500,000. The estimates show a balance applicable to the payment of principal of the debts for the year ending June 30, 1872, \$81,794,991.68.

The receipts for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1871, were \$833,323,414.86. The expenditures for the same period were \$293,178,25.

The receipts for first quarter of the present year, estimated, were \$123,418,000, and it is probable that the receipts will be equal to the estimates for the current year will exceed that for the year 1870-71.

The receipts from internal revenue were \$143,085,153.63, being \$14,185,924 less than the estimated amount proposed to Congress for the current year. The estimated expenditures for the same period were \$123,418,000, and it is probable that the receipts will be equal to the estimates for the current year will exceed that for the year 1870-71.

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The receipts from internal revenue

The Maine Farmer: An Agricultural and Family Newspaper.

Poetry.

For the Maine Farmer.

DEATH BETTER THAN LIFE.

BY MAJOR MANNING.

It were well to live a pale,
A lifeless king in our own,
If only we were happier,
If we were more at ease;
It were well to live a quiet,
Under the rose-veil fair;
It were well to live a grand,
If we could only live;

It were well to live a poor,
If by it we're more master;

But the dear Lord will it so,
To have the pain below;

For the clear, unclouded splendor
That�s the heavenly throne;

For the love, and the best—

For the pure, spiritual splendor
Or the warm earth-glow;

More than the warmer earth-glow
Does the heart, we love;

They draw us to them;
But yet "I will be done";

We are the ones who are finished;

We will wait for the "Come";

Earth has its beauties, its glories,
But it hath a sin and its curse;

Earth out souls be satisfied.

Our Story Teller.

WHY MUGGINS WAS KEPT.

"Muggins!"

While I was marvelling at so peculiar an ap-

pearance, I stood, half-witted looking half-witted at his appearance, and was dispossessed by Brinton, who had presently returned, smiling with a bunch of tooth-picks in his hand.

Somewhat to my surprise (for I remembered Brinton as rather a stern master), instead of getting a sound scolding, he informed of his error and sent back to rectify it.

I am fond of eliminating romance from com-
mon materials—so fond of doing, I might say, that I am often fonder myself! I have an
especial gift that I will not tell you that Muggins
might be impudent; for although John and I re-
marked, with an affection of desire, "We'll

"Why do you keep such a crazy fellow as
that about the house, John? Aren't you afraid
he'll get into some sort of trouble?"

Brinton's answer was delivered by the re-
appearance of Muggins, this time with his master.
Meantime I reflected that my question
must be impudent; for although John and I had
been boyish together, we had scarcely seen
each other since our resides, that sweet, de-
lightful Mrs. Brinton was sitting close by me.

So I resolved to explain.

"You remember my weakness, John, and
that some time ago I was in a bad way in
connection with the Muggins. Ah! you smile.
I thought it was so. Now tell it, like a good
fellow."

Brinton looked at me fixedly a few moments,
at the smoky end of the outward-bound steam-
er just vanishing over the horizon, and then
at his wife, all the time with a smiling, thought-
ful smile glimmering over his face. At last he

"You see," exclaimed John, "what I'm going
to tell you involves speaking of my first love,
and you understand—"

I understood perfectly. As I have said,
Brinton and I had been friends, and had exchanged
many a youthful confidence there.

But since then our paths had widely
diverged, and while I had been a traveler, and
children were about him. To-day we who

parted youths met as bearded men, with
years lengthening behind us. Yet I had

what haughty, almost unchanged—grave,
independence in all he did, and yet warm-
hearted and energetic, with a low, clear voice,
and a firm grip of the hand. I was gratified
to find his confidence in me unimpaired, and
his impulsive vivacity which would spire his
wife the embarrassment of listening to the story
of some previous attachment. And I was
eager for the story.

"I began about eight years ago," began
Brinton, placing his feet upon the window
sill, holding up his hands and gazing contempla-
tively out to sea. "I had met Muggins, at that
time, about four years—ever since he had

driven over him, a boy, in a boat, and
children were about him. Good heavens! he
was then about what little brains ever were
in him. The foolishness, and the fact that he
was always devoted to me, the pleasure of my
retaining him in my service, the fact, but it was at the time of which I am now about
to speak that he performed for me that extra-
ordinary service which no kindness of mine
ever repay."

Here my friend paused, and pulled at his
black, bristling mustache a while in silence.
Though much interested at so suggestive a
commentary to my romance, I forbore to
interfering him, as he soon resumed.

"We'd been traveling in Europe in Eu-
rope. I met a Miss Rupert, and her father
there, southerners, with all the fine and gen-
eral traits of their race; and though we were
politically at some points, we ultimately
became inseparable friends. Indeed, Miss Ru-
pert and I were engaged."

"I don't mind confessing now," said Brinton,
lowering his voice, "that I loved her, with my
whole heart, and that my memory has become a
little rusty."

"You're a keen observer, Simpson," said Mr. B.
"You go and see our sunset?" Mr. B. with
what seemed a half-deprecating glance at
himself, and, as I thought, a somewhat reluc-
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